

PARK DENIES LOBBYING, MEETING KOREA CHIEF

Associated Press

Tongsun Park says he never reported to South Korean President Park Chung Hee on the money he gave to U.S. congressmen and that "I've never been involved in South Korean lobbying."

Park made the statement to reporters yesterday after his fifth day of questioning by House ethics committee investigators.

There have been reports that U.S. intelligence learned that President Park, Tongsun Park — who is no relation — and other Korean officials

discussed influence-buying during a conversation inside the presidential mansion in Seoul called the Blue House.

But Park denied that when he was asked whether he had met with the South Korean president to discuss his contacts with U.S. congressmen.

"No, I don't think I ever had any meeting with him at all," Park answered.

"You don't think?" he was asked.

"No, I know," he said.

Park was asked whether he had told the investigators he never paid

any money to Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill or former Speaker Carl Albert. He replied that he had never paid any money to either.

Asked if he had told the investigators everything he knew about South Korean lobbying, he answered, "I've never been involved in South Korean lobbying but I told them everything I did."

Another House subcommittee reportedly will disclose details next week on what U.S. intelligence found out about the alleged Blue House conversation.

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